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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/644,153	08/20/2003	Takehiro Fukuwaki	NECE 20.585	6502

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KATTEN MUCHIN ZAVIS ROSENMAN
575 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10022-2585

EXAMINER

KIM, RICHARD H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2871

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/644,153

Applicant(s)

FUKUWAKI, TAKEHIRO

Examiner

Richard H Kim

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 August 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 8/20/03.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Objections

1. Claim 13 is objected to because of the following informalities: "said liquid crystal panel, said first substrate, said second substrate, said backlight unit, said third substrate and said fourth substrate" lack antecedent basis. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-7 and 9-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sato (US 6,806,919 B1).

Referring to claim 1, Sato discloses a display device comprising a display unit for displaying images (Fig. 3, ref. 2), and a case in which the display unit is installed (Fig. 3, ref. 1), the case being formed with an opening through which the display device is slid into and out of the case (col. 4, lines 10-15). The display, when the case is in its opened position, thus having an opening, is slid into the case.

Referring to claim 2, Sato discloses a display device wherein the case is formed with a guide for supporting the display unit therewith (Fig. 3, ref. 14).

Referring to claim 3, Sato discloses a display device wherein the case includes a cover for covering the opening therewith, the cover being formed as a part of the case (Fig. 3, ref. 1A).

Referring to claim 4, Sato discloses a display device wherein the cover is bendable (Fig. 4, col. 5, lines 4-7) for having a first position in which the cover does not close the opening, and a second position in which the cover closes the opening (Fig. 4).

Referring to claim 5, Sato discloses a display device further comprising a base plate on which the display unit is fixed (Fig. 3, ref. 1B).

Referring to claim 6, Sato discloses a display device comprising an EL display device (abstract).

Referring to claim 7, Sato discloses a display device comprising a liquid crystal display for displaying images (Fig. 3, ref. 2), and a case in which the liquid crystal display unit is installed (Fig. 3, ref. 1), the case being formed with an opening through which the liquid crystal display unit is slit into and out of the case (col. 4, lines 10-15).

Referring to claim 9, Sato discloses a liquid crystal display device further comprising a base plate on which the liquid crystal display panels is supported, the base plate is formed centrally with a window through which a display area of the liquid crystal display panel is exposed (Fig. 3, ref. 1A), and the base plate is formed with ribs for supporting the liquid crystal display panel (Fig. 3, ref. 14), and a light guide and a light reflector both constituting the backlight unit (Fig. 3, ref. 9, 7).

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Referring to claim 10, Sato discloses the device wherein the base plate acts as a guide for the liquid crystal display unit is slid into and out of the case (col. 4, lines 37-39).

Referring to claim 11, Sato discloses the device wherein the opening is closed by bending a part of the case (Fig. 8).

Referring to claim 12, Sato discloses the device wherein the opening is closed by a cover composed of the same material as the case (abstract).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 8 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sato in view of admitted prior art (AAPA).

Referring to claim 8, Sato discloses a device comprising a liquid crystal display panel (Fig. 3, ref 2); first substrate supplying a desired voltage to the liquid crystal display panel (Fig. 3, ref. 4); a second substrate supplying a signal voltage to the first substrate (Fig. 3, ref. 5); a backlight unit supplying a backlight to the liquid crystal display panel (Fig. 8, ref. 8). However, the reference does not disclose a third substrate acting as an interface, and a fourth substrate supplying a desired voltage to the backlight unit.

AAPA discloses a third substrate acting as an interface (Fig. 8, ref. 26), and a backlight substrate supplying a desired voltage to the backlight unit (Fig. 8, ref. 7).

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It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ a third substrate acting as an interface, and a fourth substrate supplying a desired voltage to the backlight unit since such a configuration is well known in the prior art to supply power to the backlight.

Referring to claim 13, Sato discloses the device previously recited, and further discloses the device wherein the liquid crystal display panel (2), the first substrate (4), the second substrate (5) are stuck on the same base plate (1A). However, the reference does not disclose a third substrate and a fourth substrate.

AAPA discloses a third substrate (Fig. 8, ref. 26) and a fourth substrate (Fig. 8, ref. 7).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ a third and fourth substrate since such a configuration of using substrates is well known in the prior art to supply power to the backlight

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Richard H Kim whose telephone number is (571)272-2294. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00-6:30 M-F.

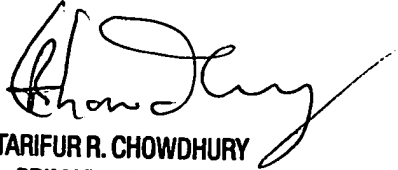
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert H Kim can be reached on (571)272-2293. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Richard H Kim
Examiner
Art Unit 2871

RHK



TARIFUR R. CHOWDHURY
PRIMARY EXAMINER